



MOUSSE

Channa Horwitz "To the Top" at François Ghebaly Gallery, Los Angeles

March 7~2016



François Ghebaly Gallery is pleased to announce the opening of *To the Top*, an exhibition by Channa Horwitz (1932–2013).

This is Horwitz' second solo exhibition with the gallery; a project by Haroon Mirza, titled "A Chamber for Horwitz; Sonakinatography Transcriptions in Surround Sound" is presented concurrently with the exhibition.

Beginning in 1964, Horwitz directed her practice through the exploration of limitation and rules as a means to experience greater freedom and depth of exploration within her work. After setting her framework and developing a primary language stemming from the boundaries of the grid, she developed a notation system to track movement and time visually; she named this series "Sonakinatography". Through different permutations of a count of eight she created unique compositions, conceptually and visually consummate in their two dimensional graphic form, while also open to performative or installational interpretation.

Each number was given an associated path within eight beats, and sometimes also a corollary color or symbol, which, when plotted according to their rules, would create her composition. The eight numbers could be expressed in countless forms such as colors, lights, persons, dancers, or instruments. The beats dictated their various sounds, pitches and movements. Through this system of eight, Horwitz developed a new language that could be applied universally, and the ability to track the “fourth dimension” two dimensionally.

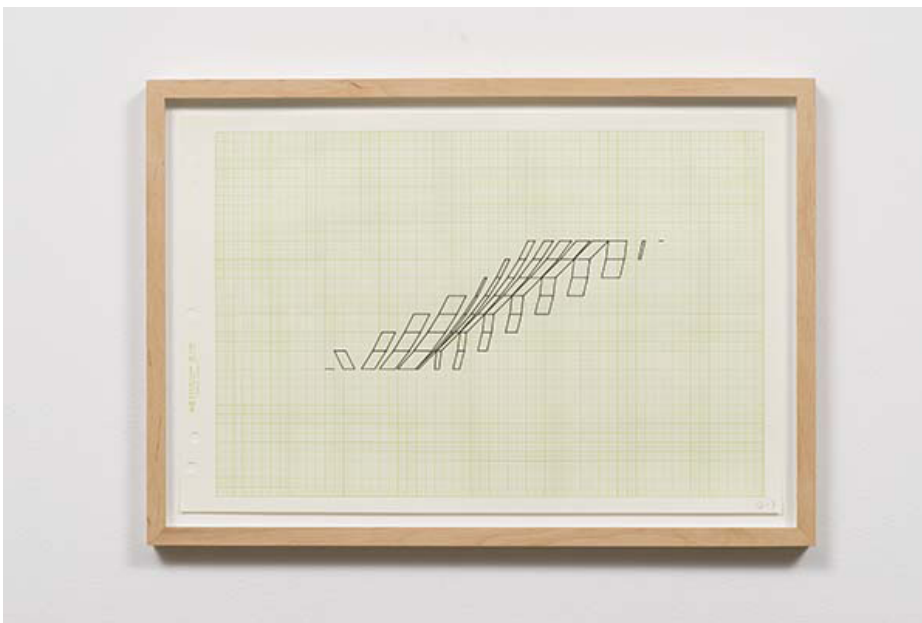
While “Sonakinatography” was most often transcribed by the plotting of points or marks on a grid, the works exhibited stem from this seminal series and are all linked by their use of lines and systematic angles to chart their compositional sequence. The exhibition focuses on Horwitz’ play of 8 angles as a means to a rhythmic system of drawing. All bodies of work in the exhibition can be traced back to “Sonakinatography” through the continued exploration of systematic notation, and forward through deconstructing permutations informed by her creative inquiry, “What would happen if I ...?”

The exhibition begins with a progression of eight works from the “Rhythm of Lines” series. This body of work explores eight different angles of two different intersecting lines, each assigned a specific color for the angle, borrowed from the color and number vernacular of “Sonakinatography”. The variance of intersecting angles determines what is being plotted and the subtle diversity of the resulting moiré patterns and compositions.

Works such as *Slices and Four Levels, To the Top* (the namesake of the exhibition) are situated together, each tracking movement across the page through careful linear processions. *To the Top* progresses the compositional structure of “Sonakinatography” from a square that grows into a cube and then back down to a square moving along the page while each in the sequence of eight play their part. *Slices* further reduces the progression of *To the Top* into eight continuous lines that intersect with the others in the sequence. This drawing is then reimagined as a three dimensional object, that can be sliced through like a loaf of bread, to reveal fragile cross-sections of the linear points that dictate its form.

The exhibition finishes with a space to better understand the prominence of the number “eight” and the works surrounding the sequence that was seminal to Horwitz’ practice. *The Book of 8* centers the room with an expansive view at the relationship between her drawings and the number sequences that they illustrate. Other works surrounding this piece expand on this relationship of numerical sequence, line and systems that were fundamental to Horwitz’ practice.

at François Ghebaly Gallery, Los Angeles until 26 March 2016



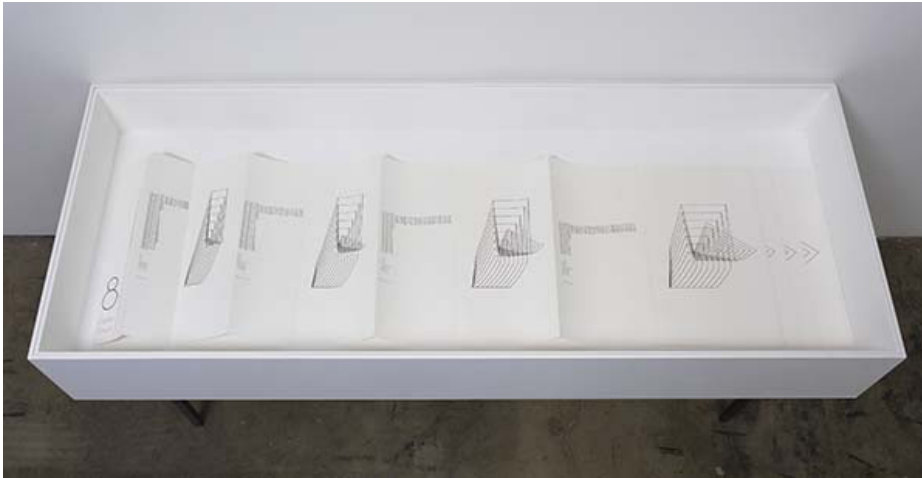
Variation and Inversion on a Rhythm Series IV, 1975



8 Sets of Moires (Rhythm of Lines Sampler), 1987



8th Level Discovered, 1982



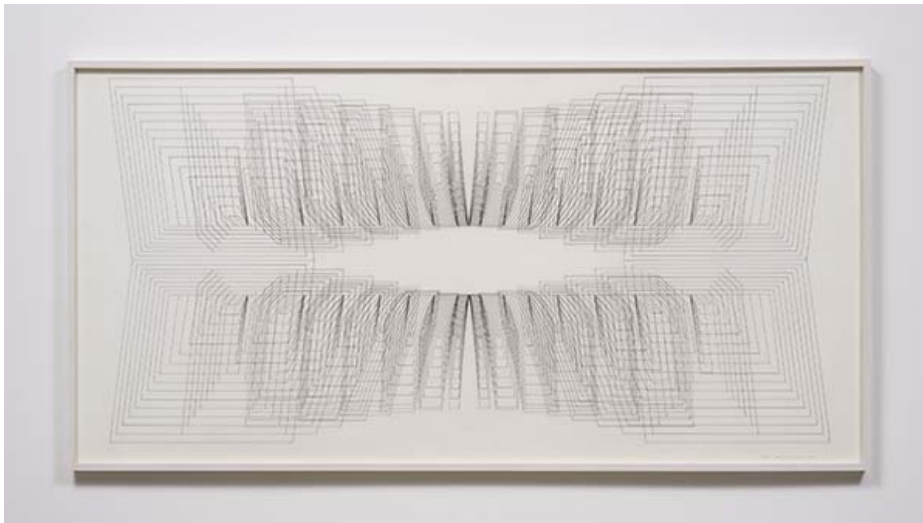
Book of 8, 1979



Canon #10, Black / White, 1982



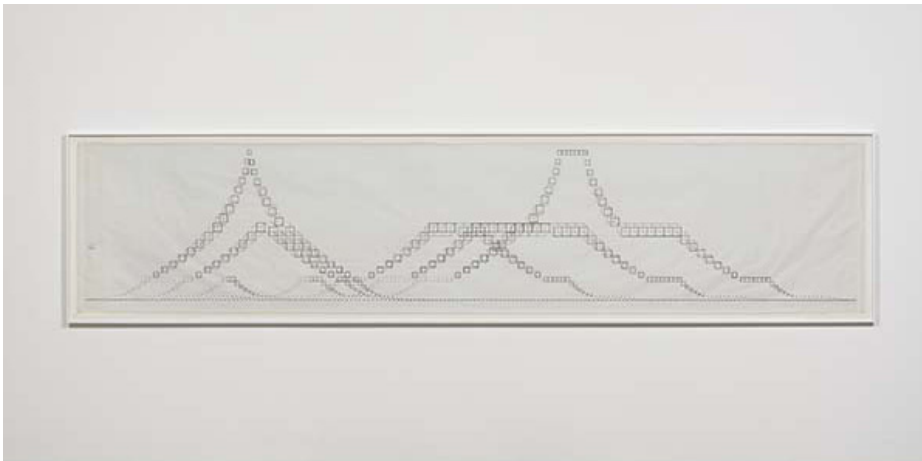
Canon #10, Multicolor, 1982



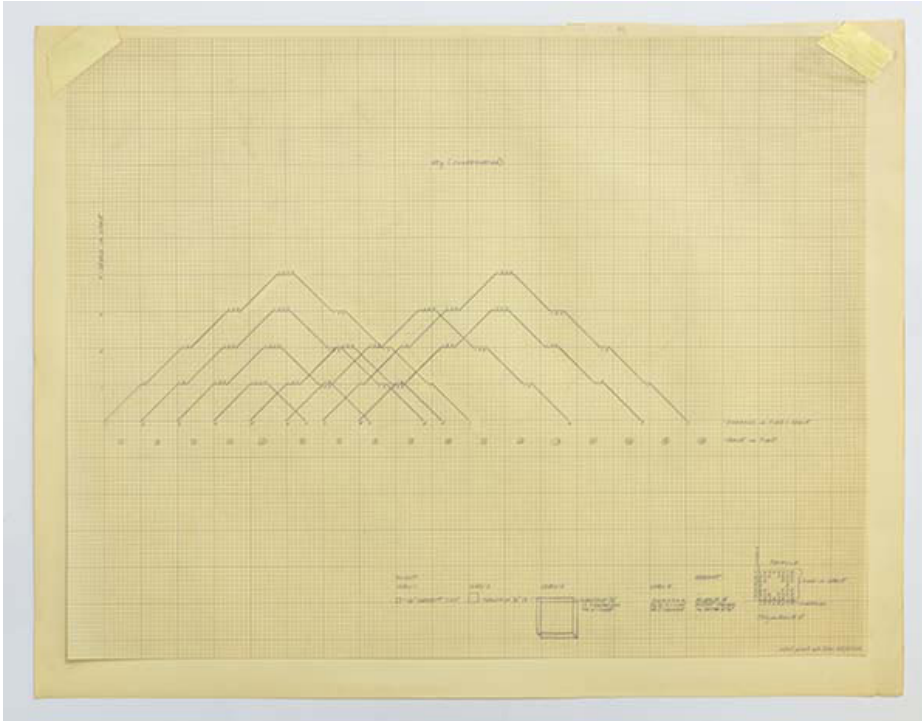
Eight Part Fugue, 1981



Eight Structures #3 (part 1 of 2), 1980



Four Levels, 1974



Key to Levels, 1975



Rhythm of Lines 1-4, 1988

Channa Horwitz "To the Top" installation views at François Ghebaly Gallery, Los Angeles, 2016
 Courtesy: the artist and François Ghebaly Gallery, Los Angeles. Photo: Robert Wedemeyer and Jeff McLane